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a first control circuit that following reception of a first reference signal, a contrast control signal and a clamped video signal provides a first controlled signal with a contrast-controlled video component;

a second control circuit, coupled to said first signal combining circuit, that following reception of said first combination signal, said first reference signal and a gain control signal provides a second controlled signal with a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component and a gain-controlled OSD component; and

2. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a clamp circuit, coupled to said first control circuit, that following reception of said first reference signal, a clamp control signal, said first controlled signal and an input video signal provides said clamped video signal.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein said clamp circuit comprises:
an input stage that following reception and combination of a switched clamp signal
and said input video signal provides said clamped video signal;
a comparator circuit, coupled to said first control circuit, that following reception and
5 comparison of said reference signal and said first controlled signal provides a clamp
signal; and
a switch circuit, coupled between said comparator circuit and said input stage, that in
response to said clamp control signal receives and switches said clamp signal to thereby
provide said switched clamp signal.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first signal combining circuit
comprises a multiplexor circuit that multiplexes said OSD signal and said first controlled
signal in response to said first combining control signal to thereby provide said first
combination signal.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said second signal combining circuit
comprises a multiplexor circuit that multiplexes said second and third controlled signals in
response to said second combining control signal to thereby provide said multiplexed
signal.

6. A multiplexed signal containing controlled video image and on-screen-display (OSD) information, comprising:

a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component representing a portion of a video image for display as a portion of a composite display image on a display device;

a gain-controlled OSD component representing a portion of an OSD image for display as another portion of said composite display image on said display device; and

a reference component representing a blanked portion of said composite display image on said display device.

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a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component representing a portion of a video image for display as a portion of a composite display image on a display device;

a reference component representing a blanked portion of said composite display image on said display device.

8. A multiplexed signal containing controlled video image and on-screen-display (OSD) information for conveyance via a signal medium, said multiplexed signal comprising:

5 a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component representing a portion of a video image for display as a portion of a composite display image on a display device;

a gain-controlled OSD component representing a portion of an OSD image for display as another portion of said composite display image on said display device; and

10 a reference component representing a blanked portion of said composite display image on said display device.

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9. A method of controlling and multiplexing video image and on-screen-display (OSD) signals, comprising the steps of:

receiving a first reference signal, a contrast control signal and a clamped video signal
5 and in response thereto generating a first controlled signal with a contrast-controlled video component;

receiving a first combining control signal and in response thereto receiving and
selectively combining an OSD signal and said first controlled signal and thereby generating
a first combination signal with said contrast-controlled video component and an OSD
10 component;

receiving said first combination signal, said first reference signal and a gain control
signal and in response thereto generating a second controlled signal with a contrast-
controlled and gain-controlled video component and a gain-controlled OSD component;
and

15 receiving a second combining control signal and in response thereto receiving and
selectively combining said second controlled signal and a second reference signal and
thereby generating a multiplexed signal with said contrast-controlled and gain-controlled
video component, said gain-controlled OSD component and a reference signal component.

10. A multiplexed signal recorded on a recording medium and containing controlled video image and on-screen-display (OSD) information, said multiplexed signal comprising:

5 a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component representing a portion of a video image for display as a portion of a composite display image on a display device;

a gain-controlled OSD component representing a portion of an OSD image for display as another portion of said composite display image on said display device; and

10 a reference component representing a blanked portion of said composite display image on said display device.

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11. A recording medium having recorded thereon a multiplexed signal containing controlled video image and on-screen-display (OSD) information for controlling a display of said video image, said recording medium having been prepared by
5 the steps of:

recording a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component representing a portion of a video image for display as a portion of a composite display image on a display device;

10 recording a gain-controlled OSD component representing a portion of an OSD image for display as another portion of said composite display image on said display device; and

recording a reference component representing a blanked portion of said composite display image on said display device.

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12. An apparatus including a signal multiplexor for controlling and multiplexing video image and on-screen-display (OSD) signals, comprising:

a first control circuit that following reception of a first reference signal, a contrast control signal and a clamped video signal provides a first controlled signal with a contrast-controlled video component;

a first signal combining circuit, coupled to said first control circuit, that in response to a first combining control signal receives and selectively combines an OSD signal and said first controlled signal to thereby provide a first combination signal with said contrast-controlled video component and an OSD component;

a second control circuit, coupled to said first signal combining circuit, that following reception of said first combination signal, said first reference signal and a gain control signal provides a second controlled signal with a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component and a gain-controlled OSD component;

a second signal combining circuit, coupled to said second control circuit, that in response to a second combining control signal receives and selectively combines said second controlled signal and a second reference signal to thereby provide a multiplexed signal with said contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component, said gain-controlled OSD component and a reference signal component; and

a variable filter circuit, coupled to said second signal combining circuit, that in response to a plurality of filter control signals selectively filters said multiplexed signal to thereby provide a filtered multiplexed signal with said contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component and said gain-controlled OSD component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising a clamp circuit, coupled to said first control circuit, that following reception of said first reference signal, a clamp control signal, said first controlled signal and an input video signal provides said clamped video signal.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said clamp circuit comprises:
an input stage that following reception and combination of a switched clamp signal
and said input video signal provides said clamped video signal;
a comparator circuit, coupled to said first control circuit, that following reception and
5 comparison of said reference signal and said first controlled signal provides a clamp
signal; and
a switch circuit, coupled between said comparator circuit and said input stage, that in
response to said clamp control signal receives and switches said clamp signal to thereby
provide said switched clamp signal.

15. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said first signal combining circuit
comprises a multiplexor circuit that multiplexes said OSD signal and said first controlled
signal in response to said first combining control signal to thereby provide said first
combination signal.

16. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said second signal combining circuit
comprises a multiplexor circuit that multiplexes said second and third controlled signals in
response to said second combining control signal to thereby provide said multiplexed
signal.

17. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said variable filter circuit comprises a
variable high pass filter circuit.

18. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said variable filter circuit comprises:
an amplifier circuit; and
a variably capacitive feedback circuit, coupled to said amplifier circuit, that in
response to a portion of said plurality of filter control signals provides a variably
capacitive feedback for said amplifier circuit.

21. A multiplexed signal containing controlled video image and on-screen-display (OSD) information, comprising:

5 a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes and representing a portion of a video image for display as a portion of a composite display image on a display device;

a gain-controlled OSD component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes and representing a portion of an OSD image for display as another portion of said composite display image on said display device; and

10 a reference component representing a blanked portion of said composite display image on said display device.

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22. A multiplexed signal containing controlled video image and on-screen-display (OSD) information and conveyed via a signal medium, said multiplexed signal comprising:

5 a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes and representing a portion of a video image for display as a portion of a composite display image on a display device;

a gain-controlled OSD component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes and representing a portion of an OSD image for display as another portion of
10 said composite display image on said display device; and

a reference component representing a blanked portion of said composite display image on said display device.

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23. A multiplexed signal containing controlled video image and on-screen-display (OSD) information for conveyance via a signal medium, said multiplexed signal comprising:

5 a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes and representing a portion of a video image for display as a portion of a composite display image on a display device;

a gain-controlled OSD component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes and representing a portion of an OSD image for display as another portion of
10 said composite display image on said display device; and

a reference component representing a blanked portion of said composite display image on said display device.

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24. A method of controlling and multiplexing video image and on-screen-display

receiving a first reference signal, a contrast control signal and a clamped video signal

receiving a first combining control signal and in response thereto receiving and

receiving said first combination signal, said first reference signal and a gain control

receiving a second combining/control signal and in response thereto receiving and

receiving a plurality of filter control signals and in response thereto selectively

25. A multiplexed signal recorded on a recording medium and containing controlled video image and on-screen-display (OSD) information, said multiplexed signal comprising:

5 a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes and representing a portion of a video image for display as a portion of a composite display image on a display device;

a gain-controlled OSD component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes and representing a portion of an OSD image for display as another portion of
10 said composite display image on said display device; and

a reference component representing a blanked portion of said composite display image on said display device.

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26. A recording medium having recorded thereon a multiplexed signal containing controlled video image and on-screen-display (OSD) information for controlling a display of said video image, said recording medium having been prepared by
5 the steps of:

recording a contrast-controlled and gain-controlled video component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes and representing a portion of a video image for display as a portion of a composite display image on a display device;

10 recording a gain-controlled OSD component having enhanced high frequency signal magnitudes and representing a portion of an OSD image for display as another portion of said composite display image on said display device; and

recording a reference component representing a blanked portion of said composite display image on said display device.

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